

*Library*

MILNROW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1953.



Council Offices,  
MILNROW.  
May, 1954.

1900  
1911  
1922

1923

1924

1925

1926

1927  
1928

MILNROW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1953.

To the Health Committee  
of the Urban District of Milnrow

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my twenty-fifth Annual Report of the District of Milnrow, and shall commence by placing before you the General Statistics from which this report is formed.

Population

The estimated population for 1953 is 8535 with an acreage of 5,194.

The rateable value of the district is £53,390 and the sum represented by the penny rate is £211.

The population is industrial and is occupied mainly with cotton spinning, the engineering trade and the wool trade, none of which has any peculiar influence on the public health.

Vital Statistics

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Births in 1953		134	66	68
Deaths in 1953		90	44	46
Deaths in infants under one year.		2	1	1
Still births		3	1	2

Rates per 1,000 of Population

No.	Rate Registered per 1000 Pop.	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality	
		No. Reg.	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No. Reg.	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No. Reg.	Rate per 1000 Deaths months	No. Reg.	Rate per 1000 Deaths	No. Reg.	Rate per 1000 live births
1953	131	15.0	90	9.9	3	22	Nil	Nil	2	15	15
1952	137	15.7	128	14.0	2	14	1	7.19	6	35444	
Previous year											
diff.	-6	-7	-38	<del>11</del>	+1	+8	-1	7.19	-4	-29	
				-4.1							

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE OF DISTRICT  
DURING 1953 and PREVIOUS YEARS

Year estimated to middle of each years.	Population No.	Births		Deaths		Infantile Deaths		Maternal Mortality	
		Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Under 1 year	Rate	Deaths	Rate
1935	8406	98	11.6	121	14.3	8	81	1	9.7
1936	8287	95	11.4	110	13.2	2	21	1	10.2
1937	8058	96	11.9	117	14.5	4	41	Nil	
1938	8033	98	12.1	110	13.6	6	61	Nil	
1939	8375	105	12.5	126	15.1	5	47	2	18.
1940	8072	118	14.6	116	14.3	3	25	1	8.6
1941	7895	117	14.8	115	14.5	5	42	Nil	
1942	7663	110	14.3	90	11.7	6	54	Nil	
1943	7520	116	15.4	108	14.3	9	77	Nil	
1944	7661	129	17.8	97	12.6	2	15.5	1	7.75
1945	7671	131	17.0	111	14.4	9	68	Nil	
1946	8134	147	18.0	105	12.9	6	40	Nil	
1947	8290	166	20.0	112	13.5	5	50	Nil	
1948	8718	145	17.2	117	13.2	9	62	1	6.1
1949	8524	146	17.1	128	14.3	6	43	1	5.2
1950	8506	134	15.6	126	14.7	3	15	Nil	
1951	8557	142	16.6	123	14.4	5	35	Nil	
1952	8578	137	15.7	128	14.0	6	44	1	
1953	8535	134	15.3	90	9.9	2	15	Nil	

Birth Rate

In 1953 the live births belonging to this district were 65 males and 66 females.

The birth rate in 1953 was	15.0
The birth rate in 1952 was	15.7
The decrease in 1953 on the previous year was	0.7
The birth rate for England and Wales in 1953 was	15.5

Death Rate

In 1953 the deaths belonging to this district were 44 males and 46 females.

The death rate for 1953 was	9.9
The death rate for 1952 was	14.0
The decrease in 1953 on the previous year was	5.41
The death rate for England and Wales in 1953 was	11.4

In 1953 the registered births exceeded the deaths by	41
In 1952 the registered births exceeded the deaths by	9

During the year 44 people belonging to the district died outside it.

Rochdale	2
Birch Hill Hospital	37
Rochdale Infirmary	4
Marland Hospital	1

The causes of death were :-

Tuberculosis respiratory	1
Malignant Neoplasm stomach	4
Malignant Neoplasm lung bronchus	3
Malignant Neoplasm breast	1
Malignant Neoplasm uterus	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasia	10
Diabetes	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	13
Coronary diseases angina	8
Hypertension with heart disease	1
Other heart diseases	18
Other circulatory disease	6
Pneumonia	3
Bronchitis	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	8
Motor vehicle accidents	1
Suicide	2
	<u>90</u>

#### Infantile Mortality

During 1953 there were 2 deaths of infants under one year, the causes of death being :-

Prematurity.

The infantile Mortality Rate in 1953 was	15
The Infantile Mortality Rate in 1952 was	44
The decrease in 1953 on the previous year was	29
The Maternal Mortality during 1953 was	Nil
The Maternal Mortality during 1952 was	<del>7.19</del>
The Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales was	26.8

#### Causes of Infectious Diseases Notified during the year 1953

Notifiable diseases	Total	Under	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	Over	Cases
		1 year	to	65	removed to hos.									
		2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65			
Scarlet Fever	16		1	2	1	10	1							10
Whooping Cough	42	2	6	8	4	13	8							2
Measles	68	8	10	8	8	7	18	1						
Dysentery	8		1	4	3									
Ophthaemia	1		1											
Tuberculosis	9					1	1	1	2				4	
Total	144													

Under the National Health Service Act the County is devided into 17 administrative divisions.

Milnrow is in Number 13 district which is composed of Bacup, Heywood Littleborough, Milnrow, Wardle and Whitworth.

#### Maternity and Child Welfare

##### Clinic

There is a Maternity and Child Welfare clinic, (Consultation) open every Tuesday 2-0 to 4-0 p.m.

Ante Natal Cases attend clinic in Rochdale by arrangements of 1 Wesley Street when the clinic is open.

Midwifery Domiciliary midwifery is carried out by midwives under the control of Lancashire County Council.

Home Help There are two home helps in the district.

Cleansing Centre Cases requiring treatment are treated at the Cleansing centre in Rochdale.

Immunisation Clinics are held monthly at the Maternity and Child Welfare on the first Wednesday in every month.

Ambulance Facilities The Ambulance service is administered by the Lancashire County Council and the Ambulance Station is at Littleborough.

Infectious Diseases The hospitals are administered by the Regional Hospital Board.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Yours obediently,

O.R.I. LOVE, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

MILNROW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1953

Council Offices,  
Milnrow.

January, 1954.



MILNROW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,  
MILNROW.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1953

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee,  
of the Urban District Council

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my ninth Annual Report of the Sanitary conditions of the district.

During the year 12 - 2 bedrooms, 18 - 3 bedroom houses, 2 - 1 bedroom flats, 2 - 2 bedroom flats and 3 bungalows have been completed by the Council and 4 - 3 bedroom houses built by the Lancashire County Constabulary.

At the end of the year there were 46 houses in course of construction, 36 - 2 bedroom and 10 - 3 bedroom.

The number of applicants at the end of the year was 338, made up as follows :-

Number of applicants with insufficient bedroom accommodation	50
Of these 26 are in lodgings and 24 are tenants.	
Number of applicants with sufficient bedroom accommodation but desire modern amenities	288
Number in lodgings	64
Number of tenants	224

During the year Demolition Orders were made on 3 dwelling houses and 8 houses were demolished, 5 under Demolition orders and 3 by negotiations with the owner.

The Manchester Regional Smoke Abatement Committee has now installed apparatus for recording the sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere. This has been sited in the grounds of the pumping station, Butterworth Hall. The report issued includes the recordings for 2 months only, during these two months the records of the district compare very favourably with other areas.

One of the greatest factors contributing to Atmospheric Pollution is the domestic firegrate.

The greater number of firegrates in the district are not of the approved smoke consuming type and still pour their waste products into the atmosphere, also I am of the opinion that the installation of all night burning apparatus is aggravating the issue, waste products being discharged into the atmosphere for 24 hours per day.

It is hoped that more approved types of grates will be installed in the older type of property and every effort made to reduce the pollution.

Much still requires to be done to improve the cleanliness of food. Many foods not packed are still exposed for sale in places open to contamination. If the elementary principles of hygiene were carried out a great improvement would be effected.

Every effort is being made to improve conditions in every sphere of Public Health, but until the full co-operation of the public is obtained the full fruits of this work will not be realised.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1953

Number of houses erected during the year :

By other bodies	4
By Local Authority	33 houses
	4 flats

Number in course of erection under present contracts.

36 Two bedroom houses.

10 Three bedroom houses.

Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects

(under Public Health or Housing Acts)

165

Number of inspections made for the purpose

390

Number of dwelling houses found to be in such a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.

18

Number of dwelling houses (excluding those referred to under

the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.

75

Remedy of Defects during the year without the service of Formal Notice

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers

47

Action under Statutory Powers during the year

Proceedings under Public Health Acts

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied

19

Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :

(a) by owners

19

(b) by local authority in default or owners

Nil

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts, 1936

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made

3

Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders

5

Housing Act 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding

Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year

2

Number of families dwelling therein

2

Number of persons dwelling therein

16

Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year

Nil

Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year

Nil

Public Health Acts

The total number of houses inspected during the year was 327, of this total 162 were inspected owing to the occurrence of infectious diseases. The remaining inspections were made on account of general defects, etc.

Other inspections made are shown in Table A and Nuisances abated in Table B.

Water Supply

The water supply for the district is from Rochdale and Oldham Corporations and is a direct supply to the houses.

During the year 2 samples of water have been examined.

The results of the bacteriological examinations were satisfactory.

Five samples for bacteriological examination have been taken from a private supply.

The result of three examinations proved to be unsatisfactory. The drainage to the house was repaired and altered, the well cleaned out and the walls lined. The result of the two further samples was satisfactory.

Of the 3141 houses of the district 2,952 are supplied from the mains. The houses not receiving mains water are those scattered throughout the district where a water main is not available, and are farm cottages and small hamlets.

There are no stand pipes in the district.

#### Rodent Control

The following summary gives details of the work carried out during the year :

	<u>Properties inspected</u>	<u>No. of properties infested</u>	<u>No. of Treatments</u>
Local Authority	55	5	5
Dwelling houses	327	20	20
Business premises	222	17	17
Agricultural premises	21	Nil	Nil

756 poison baits were laid.

A test bait of the sewers was carried out, 23 manholes were baited. I am pleased to report that no bait was taken.

There were no cases of infestation of a serious nature.

#### Scavenging

The Sanitary accommodation at the end of the year was :

Fresh water closets	2860
Waste water closets	63
Pail closets	182
Ashbins	2679

#### Cleansing Service

##### Domestic Refuse

The Cleansing service is operated by two refuse collection vehicles and 8 men, and collects domestic refuse, kitchen waste, nightsoil and fish offal.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping.

The vehicles travelled 9,736 miles and collected 1,607 loads of refuse nightsoil and kitchen waste.

The figures are made up as follows :

	<u>Mileage</u>	<u>Loads</u>
Domestic Refuse	5,885	1,297
Kitchen Waste	1,648	104
Nightsoil	1,696	156
Fish Offal	607	50

#### Salvage

The kitchen waste is collected from street bins and taken to the Rochdale Corporation Cleansing Department for sterilization and manufactured into pig food.

The amount of salvaged materials collected was :

		T	C	Qr.
Scrap metal		6	17	0
Tins		15	8	1
Kitchen waste		88	1	2

Drainage is not listed in the table of salvaged materials collected.

All drainage work carried out during the year has been inspected, 36 visits have been made.

#### Factories

There are 56 factories in the district, 54 mechanical and 2 non-mechanical. These are made up as follows :

##### Mechanical

11 Cotton Spinners  
2 Waste Mills  
1 Flannel Manufacturer  
1 Paper Tube Manufacturer  
4 Engineering Works  
2 Woodwork Machinists  
1 Laundry  
1 Plumber  
1 Electrical Engineer  
1 Printer

1 Brickworks  
4 Bleaching and Dyeing  
1 Surgical cotton manufacturer  
2 Quarries  
4 Joiners  
11 Bakehouses  
1 Garage  
1 Wool Sorter  
1 Hide Skips and Pickers  
1 Slipper Manufacturer

##### Non-mechanical

2 Plumbers

During the year 34 visits were made to factories re sanitary accommodation canteens and boiler plant.

#### Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951

One factory has been granted a licence under this Act to manufacture Rag Flock, and one factory a licence to store Rag Flock.

#### Food Preparing Premises and Food Shops

There are 18 bakehouses and 40 visits have been made to these premises. The general standard is good.

The ovens at these bakehouses are heated by gas, electricity and solid fuel. 9 gas, 2 electricity and 7 solid fuel.

#### Food shops

There are 15 Butchers, 9 Fried Fish and Chip Shops, 28 Grocery and Provisions, 21 Confectioners, 12 Greengrocery and Fish.

63 visits have been made to food preparing premises and food shops. Many of the above have refrigerators, and a good standard of cleanliness has been maintained.

#### Milk

#### Samples taken during the year

	No. taken	N.	T.B.	Methy Blue, S, N.s.
Dairy Farms	19	18	1	7 3

The positive sample of milk was referred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for investigation.

### Schools and Day Nurseries

All milk supplied to schools is pasteurised and supplied in  $1/3$  pint bottles.

	No taken	Phosphatase test		Methy Blue test	
		S.	N.S.	S.	N.S.
Schools	8	8	-	8	-
Day Nurseries	4	4	-	4	-

### Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilized Milk) Regulations 1949

28 licences have been granted to sell "Sterilised" and 4 "Pasteurised" milk.

4 licences have been granted for the sale of "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

### Food and Drugs

The County Council sampling officer obtained 47 samples of these 32 were of milk and the 15 others comprised :

1 Bread (Procea)	1 Sugar
1 Semolina	1 Butter
1 Lentils	1 Margarine
1 Brown Bread	1 Cooking Fat
1 Flour	1 Meat Paste
1 Pineapple, bottled	1 Pickles
1 Cheese	1 Fruit Chutney
1 Whole Orange drink	

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following :

<u>Samples</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1 Cheese	Contained 21.5% fat corresponding to 41.5% on the dry matter. Cheese spread should contain 45% fat calculated on the dry matter.	Packers communicated with.

### Unsound Food

The undermentioned foodstuffs have been examined and condemned as unfit for human consumption.

4 tins Peaches	27 tins Cherries
6 tins Apricots	5 tins Cherry Pudding
11 tins Pineapple	4 tins Fruit Salad
9 tins Evaporated Milk	2 tins Minced Beef
1 tin Full Cream Milk	1 tin Grapefruit
5 tins Chopped Pork	1 tin Luncheon Meat
5 tins Tongue	2 tins Corned Beef
2 tins Strawberries	1 tin Carrots
19 tins Processed Peas	3 tins Stewed steak
5 tins Tomatoes	2 tins Tomato Soup
8 tins Pears	1 tin Baked Beans
2 tins Plums	1 tin Scotch Broth
1 tin Blackberries	4 lb. Boiled Ham.

### Shops Acts

The following is a list of shops in the district.

21 Confectioners	12 Greengrocery and Fish
15 Butchers	1 Gowns
6 Boot and Shoe	10 Hairdressers
3 Chemists	7 Hardware
1 Corn Merchant	8 Newsagents

12 Drapers	2 Paints and Wallpaper
2 Electrical Goods	1 Second Hand Dealer
9 Fried Fish and Chip	1 Tripe
1 Fancy Goods	6 Sweets and Tobacco
28 Grocery and Provisions	1 Cycle Accessories

#### Licensed Premises

22 Public Houses  
8 Clubs  
22 Off Licences

114 visits have been made to shops during the year,

The shops are mainly family business except the Co-operative shops and a few multiple shops.

The provisions of the Shops Act are being complied with.

#### Smoke Abatement

The industrial chimneys are kept under observation and every effort is made to prevent the omission of quantities of smoke.

#### Infection and Disinfection

There were 144 cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year :

Scarlet Fever	16
Measles	68
Whooping Cough	42
Dysentery	8
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Tuberculosis	
Pulmonary	7
Non Pulmonary	2

110 of the cases of Infectious diseases notified were removed to hospital.

22 rooms have been fumigated with formaldehyde.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and consideration in the exercise of my duties as Sanitary Inspector.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,  
Yours faithfully,

H. NUNN.

Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE A

Investigations of Infectious Diseases (notifiable)	162
Number of houses inspected	165
Reinspections	225
Inspection of Factories	34
Inspection of Farms	21
Inspection of Bakehouses	40
Inspection of Food Preparing Premises	3
Inspection of Fried Fish and Chip	14
Inspection of Licensed Premises	10
Inspection of Schools	7
Inspection of Tip	50
Visits re rats and mice	388
Inspection of drainage	36
Visits re applications for Council houses	47
Inspection of Shops (Shops Act)	114
Visits to day nurseries	33
Visits re water supply	25
Visits re Rag Flock	2
Visits re unsound food	28
Visits not inspections	184
Miscellaneous inspections	54
Smoke Abatement	6
	<u>1708</u>

TABLE B

Roof Repairs	22
Defective flues repaired	4
Floor boards repaired	4
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	7
Choked drains released	15
W.C. Cisterns repaired	1
Plastering repaired	8
Window frames repaired	5
Defective firerange repaired	1
Dampness	4
Water services repaired	2
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	17
Gas leakage repairs	1
W.C. Pedestal renewed	2
Water supplies	2
Percolations	2
Window cords repaired	27
Omission of cotton waste	2
No intervening ventilated space to W.C.	1
Slopstone waste pipe repaired	1
W.C. chamber roofs repaired	3
W.C. door frames repaired	2
Ashbins renewed	193
Ashbins provided	41
Sanitary pails	9
Rats and Mice Infestations	<u>44</u> <u>420</u>

